

PRESS RELEASE

Office of the United States Attorney
Middle District of Florida

PAUL I. PEREZ UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

400 North Tampa Street Suite 3200 Tampa, Florida 33602 813/274-6000 813/274-6300 (Fax) 300 North Hogan Street Suite 700 Jacksonville, Florida 32201 904/301-6300 904/301-6310 (Fax) 501 West Church Street Suite 300 Orlando, Florida 32805 407/648-7500 407/648-7643 (Fax) 2110 First Street Suite 3-137 Fort Myers, Florida 33901 239/461-2200 239/461-2219 (fax)

Contact: Steve Cole ♦ Public Affairs Specialist ♦ 813/274-6352

For Immediate Release

August 25, 2006

MARION COUNTY CAREER CRIMINALS SENTENCED ON FEDERAL NARCOTICS AND FIREARMS CHARGES

OCALA, FLORIDA - Senior United States District Judge Wm. Terrell Hodges sentenced two Marion County career criminals to lengthy prison terms on federal narcotics and firearms charges yesterday. ANTOIN LAMAR SHADE, age 31, of Ocala, received a term of imprisonment of 17 ½ years for possession of a firearm and ammunition by a prohibited person (convicted felon) and possession of more than five grams of crack cocaine with the intent to distribute. SHADE also must serve five years on supervised release after his prison sentence and pay a special assessment of \$200. STEVEN ANGELO MCDUFFIE, age 33, of Ocala, was sentenced to 14 years' imprisonment on three counts of possession of more than five grams of crack cocaine with the intent to distribute. He likewise must serve three years on supervised release at the conclusion of his prison sentence and pay a special assessment of \$300.

According to court records, SHADE sold crack cocaine to a confidential informant working in cooperation with the Ocala Police Department on several occasions in September and October of 2005. When police subsequently executed a search warrant

at one of SHADE's residences, SHADE immediately ran to the bathroom area of the home and began flushing cocaine down a toilet. When officers arrested SHADE, they discovered a pill bottle in his hand containing crack cocaine. A further search of the residence revealed three loaded firearms, including a short-barreled shotgun. SHADE admitted that all of the firearms belonged to him. A second warrant served at another of SHADE's residences led to the recovery of a fourth firearm. As a thirteen-time previously convicted felon, SHADE cannot possess either firearms or ammunition under federal law.

MCDUFFIE sold crack cocaine to undercover police informants from March through December of 2005. Based on these sales, the Ocala Police Department executed a search warrant at MCDUFFIE's residence in January 2006. A subsequent search revealed thirteen rounds of 9mm ammunition in MCDUFFIE's bedroom. As a seven-time previously convicted felon, MCDUFFIE cannot possess ammunition under federal law.

The case represents the culmination of a cooperative effort between the United States Attorney's Office, the State Attorney's Office for Marion County, the Ocala Police Department, and the Gainesville Satellite Office of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives ("ATF"). This is another case prosecuted as a part the Department of Justice program "Project Safe Neighborhoods" - a nationwide gun violence reduction initiative with strong support from ATF. United States Attorney Paul I. Perez is coordinating the cooperative effort here in the Middle District of Florida with federal, state and local law enforcement officials. The objective is to reduce violent crime by locating and seizing unlawfully possessed guns and ammunition and then swiftly prosecuting the offenders using both federal and state gun laws.

The cases were prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Robert E. Bodnar, Jr.